



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 25, 2021

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent  
Finance and Operations KG

**SUBJECT:** 2021 School Wellness Award

The Michigan Department of Education is sharing that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has announced its application window for the 2021 School Wellness Award.

MDHHS, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education, United Dairy Industry of Michigan, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, invites schools to apply for the award by midnight (EST) May 19, 2021. The online application can be found at <http://swa.mihealthtools.org>, along with additional information about the award and creating healthy school environments.

The award encourages Michigan schools to promote physical activity, healthy eating, and tobacco/nicotine-free lifestyles for students and staff. It recognizes and applauds schools working to create healthier school environments, whether virtual or in-person, by establishing school health teams, completing the Healthy School Action Tools (HSAT) assessments and action plan, and implementing sustainable policy and environmental changes. All Michigan K-12 public and non-public schools are eligible to apply. Schools will be encouraged to share their success in promoting student and staff health during the pandemic.

The school wellness award will recognize schools committed to increasing student achievement with a healthier school community. In lieu of an in-person award ceremony, award-winning schools will receive electronic award badges along with promotional items to help them publicize their success. Local legislators will also be invited to provide school tributes in honor of award-winning schools.

Questions may be directed to Karen Krabill Yoder at MDHHS at [yoderk@michigan.gov](mailto:yoderk@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education

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